

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides novel soft steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, pharmaceutical compositions containing said agents, and methods of administering same to mammals in the treatment of inflammation. Preferred compounds of the invention include haloalkyl 17 α -alkoxycarbonyloxy-11 β -hydroxyandrost-4-en-3-one-17 β -carboxylates and the corresponding $\Delta^1,4$ compounds, optionally bearing 6 α - and/or 9 α -fluorine and 16 α - or 16 β -methyl substituents. Especially preferred compounds include haloalkyl 17 α -alkoxycarbonyloxy-9 α -fluoro-11 β -hydroxy-16-methylandrosta-1,4-dien-3-one-17 β -carboxylates.